

Nkomo heads for London

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Zimbabwe opposition leader Joshua Nkomo left Johannesburg for London Saturday night in an attempt to find asylum after fleeing his native country earlier this week. A British Airways spokesman said Mr. Nkomo boarded the airline's flight to London from Jan Smuts Airport Saturday evening, after arriving only minutes before on a special charter flight from the Botswana capital of Gaborone. Mr. Nkomo and two travelling companions crossed the tarmac directly to the aircraft without completing South African immigration formalities. The spokesman said Mr. Nkomo was travelling with a Mr. Neube and another Mr. Nkomo, who was not immediately identified. Informants in Gaborone said he could be Mr. Nkomo's son, who has lived in Botswana for some months. Earlier story on page 8.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جordan Times وسائل إعلامية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية "الرأي"



Soviet minister stops over in Cairo

CAIRO (R) — Soviet Deputy Premier Nikolai Balakov stopped at Cairo airport Saturday and had 90 minutes of talks with Egyptian Deputy Foreign Minister Shafiq Abdul Hamid. The official Middle East News Agency said Mr. Balakov, who was on his way from Addis Ababa to Moscow, received a spoken message from Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali, but it gave no details. Egyptian officials have recently said Cairo would be willing to upgrade relations with Moscow provided this was not at the expense of its close ties with Washington. The late President Anwar Sadat expelled the Soviet ambassador and most of his staff in September 1981 after accusing Moscow of inciting internal unrest in Egypt. The meeting Saturday was the second this month between Mr. Balakov and Mr. Abdul Hamid. They had talks on March 2, also in Cairo, when the Soviet official passed through on his way to the Ethiopian capital.

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Yarmouk Force gets JD 166,508 donation

AMMAN (Petra) — The Joint Jordanian-Iraqi Land Transport Company Saturday donated JD 166,508 to the all-volunteer Yarmouk Force, fighting alongside Iraq in its war with Iran. A cheque for the amount was handed to Minister of Finance Salem Massadeh by the company's board chairman, Hashem Al Taher, and the company's director, Tareq Kafi. Earlier, the company donated JD 20,393 to the Yarmouk Force. Mr. Massadeh thanked the company for the donation and wished the company further progress and success.

Colombo in Cairo

CAIRO (R) — Italian Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo arrived Saturday for talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and other officials. Mr. Colombo told reporters he would discuss Middle East issues and bilateral relations. He meets President Mubarak on Sunday.

Bomb explodes in New Delhi

NEW DELHI (R) — A bomb exploded Saturday in a post office in central Delhi as non-aligned leaders ended their meeting about three kilometres away, police said. No one was injured in the blast which caused only slight damage to the building. Police said the crudely-made bomb had been planted in a toilet.

Mubarak moves against illegal construction

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has given instructions for changes in the law to provide for tougher penalties for illegal building. Cairo, after 27 people were killed when two buildings collapsed this week. Prime Minister Fuad Mubarak told reporters after a ministerial meeting that President Mubarak said the amendments should be submitted to the People's Assembly (parliament) within days. Last Sunday, a ten-storey building collapsed, killing 18 people, and four storeys illegally built on top were said to have caused the accident. Another building collapsed four days later, killing nine people. Earlier this year, 40 people died in a similar accident in another Cairo suburb.

Airliners collide at Frankfurt airport

RANKFURT (R) — A taxiing airliner collided with a stationary airliner while waiting to take off at Frankfurt International Airport Saturday, an airport spokesman said. They were a Kuwait Airways Boeing 747 Jumbo jet bound for Kuwait with 237 passengers and an American World Airways Boeing 737 bound for West Berlin with 128 passengers. No passengers were hurt, the spokesman said.

Benjedid to visit Tunis next week

UNIS (R) — Algerian President Hadi Benjedid will make an official visit to Tunisia from March 3 to 20; the Foreign Ministry announced Saturday in a communiqué published by the Tunis news agency TAP.

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Gandhi, Arafat appeal for solidarity, early end to Iran-Iraq war

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat made impassioned fresh appeals for Third World solidarity and an end to the Gulf war at the closing session of the non-aligned summit Saturday.

The summit ended 18 hours late after rows between Iran and Iraq and a wrangle over where to hold the next conference in three years' time.

It called on the big powers to end the nuclear arms race and spend their missile money on helping to bail the world's poorest countries out of economic misery.

Kings, presidents and prime ministers representing the 101-member movement condemned U.S. policy in the Middle East and castigated South Africa and Israel. They called indirectly for a withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan and Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea.

Mrs. Gandhi intervened personally to patch up differences on the Iran-Iraq war after arguments over the phrasing of the final conference document and who should stage the next summit delayed the

closing session.

Mrs. Gandhi called delegates into session at 2.45 a.m. to announce a compromise. She said some references to the 30-month-old war were being deleted and the venue of the next summit was being referred to a non-aligned foreign ministers' meeting in 1985.

The seventh summit was switched to Delhi at short notice from Baghdad because of the war. Delegates said most members backed Iraq's claim to host the next conference.

After saying a paragraph on the war was being struck out of the final political declaration, Mrs. Gandhi read out an appeal to the two Islamic states to end their conflict.

The 65-year-old Indian leader repeated her appeal at Saturday morning's closing session, concluding it with a call for unity in the movement.

During the summit, Iraq suggested non-aligned arbitration to end the war. But Iran rejected it and vowed to fight on, sticking to its demands for a complete Iraqi withdrawal, \$200 billion in reparations and "condemnation and punishment of the aggressor."

Mr. Arafat, wearing khaki and his traditional black and white checked headscarf, joined the appeal, urging the two sides not to spill blood needed for the liberation struggle.

As he stepped from the podium, he hugged the previous non-aligned chairman, President Fidel Castro of Cuba, and they posed together giving victory salutes.

Mrs. Gandhi said the Non-Aligned Movement was "an assertion of humankind's will to survive, despite oppression, the growing arms race and ideological divisions."

"A long climb"

But it would take a long time to fulfil the ideals and objectives of the movement, she said.

(Continued on page 3)

Qasem says Jordan played key role in Delhi summit

AMMAN (Petra) — Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem returned to Amman Saturday after attending the seventh non-aligned summit, which concluded in New Delhi earlier in the day.

Mr. Qasem told the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, that the Jordanian delegation to the summit, headed by His Majesty King Hussein, had an effective role at the summit meetings and in bilateral talks with other delegations. He added that the King's address to the conference outlined the procedure of the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue on future relations between the two peoples to serve the common goal of saving the Palestinian land and people from Israeli occupation and annexation plans.

Mr. Qasem said the King emphasized in his speech that the Non-Aligned Movement should necessarily take a clear stand towards the Iranian aggression on Iraq.

The King proposed that a mediating committee be formed, comprising several non-aligned heads of state and leaders to seek a ceasefire in the Gulf war and pave the way for a negotiated settlement to the conflict, Mr. Qasem added. He said the King also urged support for Iraqi peace proposals, and its offer to host the next non-aligned summit.

Mr. Qasem pointed out that "Jordan contributed a lot to the crystallization of a firm and clear stand towards the Palestinian and Lebanese problems." He added that such stand was fully expressed in the adoption by the summit of the Fez peace plan as a suitable basis for the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

Mr. Qasem said the King emphasized in his speech that the Non-Aligned Movement should

Rajavi says war costs Iran very high

AMMAN (J.T.) — The war with Iraq has cost Iranians 300,000 lives and \$500 billion, the leader of the Iranian rebel movement, Masoud Rajavi, was quoted Saturday as saying.

In an interview in Paris with the Jordanian newspaper, Sawt Al Shaab, Mr. Rajavi said the continuing war constituted a serious threat to stability and peace in the whole Middle East.

"Islam is the religion of brotherhood and fraternity among different nations, but (Iranian religious leader Ayatollah Ruhollah)

(Continued on page 3)

Khomeini is using religion and the war as a smokescreen against internal difficulties in Iran," Mr. Rajavi said.

Mr. Rajavi, who heads the Paris-based Iranian National Resistance Movement, also said that the Khomeini regime in Tehran is collaborating with Israel "which is self-evident from the fact that as long as the Gulf war drags on, Israel is given an golden opportunity to continue to strike against Palestinian resistance."

(Continued on page 3)

Masoud Rajavi

Yamani optimistic OPEC meeting will agree on \$29 a barrel price

YAMANI (R) — Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani said Saturday he was optimistic that an Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) meeting here will clinch an elusive agreement cutting the oil price by \$2 a barrel.

Other sources close to a meeting of OPEC, called in response to the unprecedented glut in the market, said the outstanding package and a pricing free-for-all resulted in the oil price could tumble to \$20 a barrel.

Conference sources said Friday night that Venezuela was among the problems in the search for agreed output quotas.

An Energy Ministry official in Caracas told Reuters the country, which has debt problems, would find it hard to accept a mandated quota below 1.75 million barrels daily. An OPEC majority talked of giving Venezuela no more than

1.6 million.

Conference sources said it appeared that only Venezuela and the United Arab Emirates had yet to accept an outline accord on quotas worked out in the meeting.

An OPEC deal, if clinched, will still face a severe test in the market.

Oil Minister Mohammad Ghafoori of Iran told Tehran Radio Friday night he thought that an overall OPEC output ceiling of 17.5 million barrels daily, favoured by the majority, was too generous to remove the oversupply in the market and the threat of a full-scale price collapse might persist.

A 15 per cent cut in the oil price would be good news for the West and for non-oil developing countries, most economists are saying.

Asked by reporters about the reference price, Sheikh Yamani said Saturday: "Twenty-nine:

Well, we have already agreed upon that."

He also said: "I am optimistic that we will reach an agreement. Today or tomorrow."

The crisis talks are already in their fifth day. Venezuelan Minister Humberto Calderon Berti said Saturday that, if OPEC failed to agree a price-and-output package and a pricing free-for-all resulted in the oil price could tumble to \$20 a barrel.

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Indian Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the new chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, Saturday strikes the gavel to close the seventh summit held in New Delhi March 7-12. Bottom: Palestine Liberation Organisation leader Yasser Arafat attends the summit. In front of Mr. Arafat is the King of Nepal, Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev (A.P. wirephoto)



Central Bank to announce cut in interest rates

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Central Bank of Jordan will very soon announce a drastic measure revising interest rates on Jordanian dinars at local banks, the Jordan Times learned Saturday.

The Central Bank is expected to lower the entire scale of interest rates on both deposits and credit facilities. The current minimum interest rate available to deposits in Jordanian dinars are as follows:

Current account: Four per cent

Saving account: 5.5 per cent

Deposit subject to notice: 6.25 per cent

Time deposits: 6.5 per cent

Central interest rates applicable to credit facilities are as fol-

lows:

Overdraft account: 9 per cent plus commission varying according to customers.

Loans: 4 per cent plus a two per cent commission.

It is believed that interest charged by specialised credit institutions including the Industrial Development Bank and the Housing Bank will also be subject to reduction.

It is also believed that the Central Bank will make funds available to banks at a cheaper rate. It is to be recalled that interest rates in Jordan have almost remained unchanged since 1980.

The statement said that the recent attack brings to memory similar sabotage operations against Al Aqsa Mosque since Israel occupied Jerusalem in 1967.

The statement was referring to previous attacks against religious shrines in Jerusalem. Among these incidents are an arson attempt on Al Aqsa Mosque in 1967, continuous attempts by Jewish extremists to penetrate the foun-

tion of Al Aqsa repeated violations of the sanctity of Al Aqsa Mosque in occupied Jerusalem and Jordan's interest rates kept artificially high for long, by Fahed Fanek, page 5

Former premier carries Gemayel message to U.S.

BEIRUT (R) — Former Lebanese Prime Minister Saeb Salam left Saturday for Washington carrying a message from President Amine Gemayel to President Reagan, state-run Beirut Radio reported.

Mr. Salam told reporters after meeting President Gemayel Saturday morning that he was travelling as a special envoy of the Lebanese leader.

Israel and Lebanon have been negotiating since the end of December on the withdrawal of Israeli troops which invaded Lebanon last year.

(Continued on page 3)

Banladesh to restore ties with Kabul, Hanoi

DHAKA (R) — Bangladesh will normalise its relations with Afghanistan and ask Vietnam to reopen its mission in Dhaka, military ruler Lt.-Gen. Hossain Mohammad Ershad said Saturday.

Speaking to reporters on his return from the non-aligned summit in Delhi, the general said he had had long talks with the prime ministers of Afghanistan and Vietnam during the summit.

He added that friendly relations with Afghanistan and Vietnam during the summit.

Speaking to reporters on his return from the non-aligned summit in Delhi, the general said he had had long talks with the prime ministers of Afghanistan and Vietnam during the summit.

Vietnam shut down its mission in Dhaka in 1978 when Bangladesh denounced Hanoi's invasion of Kampuchea.

Gen. Ershad said he was committed to a peaceful transition to a civilian democracy in Bangladesh through a general election next year.

"Peaceful transfer of power has never taken place in Bangladesh. We will show that this can take place," he said.

Under Italy's legal system, the judicial letter is the first official warning by magistrates to a citizen that he is being investigated, enabling an adequate defence to be

said. An Israeli pedestrian was also slightly injured by a rock, he said.

Large numbers of police and troops were deployed in the city's eastern sector to prevent disturbances following Friday's attack by ultra-nationalist Jews to seize Jerusalem's Al Aqsa Mosque.

At a meeting with the ambassadors of the U.S., Britain, France, China and Soviet Union, Mr. Ibrahim expressed the Jordanian

government's "deep concern over Israel's recent attempt to blow up Al Aqsa Mosque in whose place Zionist extremists were planning to set up a Jewish settlement."

Mr. Ibrahim also spoke about Israel's aggressive actions over the past years against Islamic and Christian holy sites in Jerusalem.

Jordan is drawing the attention of the international community to the danger inherent in such Israeli actions and their serious consequences in the region, Mr. Ibrahim said.

The Jordanian government also sent memo to the U.N. secretary general, the Arab League, and the Organisation of Islamic Conference urging them to exert more efforts to abort Israel's aggressive actions," Mr. Ibrahim said.

(Continued on page 3)

Violent protests continue in W. Bank

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli police shot an Arab Saturday as Palestinian youths threw stones at police in a continuation of the week-long violence that has accompanied a visit by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter here.

Mr. Carter was touring the occupied West Bank when Arab youths in East Jerusalem pelted a police patrol with stones. The officers fired in the air and then shot one of

FEATURES

Haudenosaunee nation still independent within U.S.

By Michele Abruzzi
Reuter

NEDROW, New York — The sovereign nation of the Haudenosaunee stands in northern New York state, just south of Syracuse.

It appears in few reference books, has not joined the United Nations and lacks an embassy in Washington because it is a bit shorthanded.

But it issues its own passports, is recognised by the governor of New York and is within sight of its bicentenary.

So when fugitive American Indian leader Dennis Banks sought to escape a jail term, it was no accident that he turned up last January in the land of the Haudenosaunee, where he remains, maintaining successfully so far

that he is beyond the reach of U.S. law.

To the U.S. government, the 7,300-acre (3,000 hectare) nation is the Onondaga Indian reservation. But its inhabitants, stubbornly clinging to treaties made with George Washington in 1788 and 1794, refuse to be counted in the census or drafted and only grudgingly use a New York postal address (Onondaga Nation, via Nedrow, New York).

The Onondagas, one of the six nations of the Iroquois Confederacy, are known as one of the most militant American Indian communities because of their insistence on sovereignty.

"The six nations were never conquered," said Joe Heath, a Syracuse lawyer who has handled several cases for the confederacy.

When the first treaty was signed, they were in a stronger position than the original states.

The traditional Onondagas believe the government denies their rights to territory, cultural integrity and sovereignty because it wants their land and natural resources.

"The government is trying to extinguish our traditions for the reason of land," said Leon Shenandoah, chief of the Onondagas and Grand Sachem (chief) of the Iroquois Confederacy.

"We're in the cultural trenches," said another Onondaga chief, Oren Lyons. "It's hard work being an Indian."

In their heyday in the mid-17th century, the Iroquois controlled territory running from Maine to Chicago, from Ottawa to Tennessee.

Today the six nations — Onondaga, Oneida, Seneca, Cayuga, Mohawk and Tuscarora — range from the Senecas' 50,000 acres (20,000 ha) to the Oneidas' 32-acre (13 ha) Caravan Park in western New York. The Onondagas are the keepers of the symbolic council fires and their Longhouse is the six nations' headquarters.

Like Americans, the six nations wear blue jeans, eat pizza and watch television. But they also make decisions in Longhouse meetings, raise buffalo and travel on passports reading Haudenosaunee (people of the Longhouse).

Other tribes have in recent years reaffirmed their claims to sovereignty, based on some 371 treaties and other agreements. But the six nations have led the way.

A spokesman at the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs, which administers the country's 283 federally recognised reservations, said the Indians were "dependent sovereigns."

"The Indians, to put it bluntly, were overcome by the European settlers that came in here," he said. "Dependent sovereignty has limitations on it. You can't have one country inside another. One has to be top dog and it happens to be the United States."

But a spokesman for New York Governor Mario Cuomo said: "He recognises the sovereignty of the Indian nation. He recognises the treaties of the 1790s with regard to their position."

The Onondaga County sheriff, who has jurisdiction over the Onondaga reservation, does not enter it without permission.

Which is why Dennis Banks, a founder of the American Indian Movement (AIM), remains there, defying a 1973 conviction for riot and assault in South Dakota.

"Our position on Banks is that it's the same as if he was in Canada or Mexico," said Sheriff John Dillon.

Mr. Banks, citing a personal feud with the South Dakota governor, says he fears for his life if he returns there, but has offered to serve his sentence in New York.

Mr. Cuomo said recently he would agree to this if it could be legally arranged. So while the lawyers haggle, Banks waits in the land of Haudenosaunee.

With its unpainted houses and front yards filled with old cars and an occasional goat, the reservation resembles other economically depressed areas, except for the log

Longhouse and the trading post. There is a firehouse, a school, three Christian churches and a herd of about 40 buffalo hut no stores or banks.

The Onondagas receive funds for health, education and welfare but do not vote or pay taxes except on income earned off the reservation.

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There are believed to be several hundred people on the reservation, but Chief Shenandoah said he did not know the exact figure because "we always include seven generations ahead (future generations)... Can you count them?"

The traditional Onondagas hold seasonal ceremonies four times a year. The chiefs meet whenever necessary in the Longhouse, dis-

cussing everything in the Iroquois language.

Most people work off the reservation, choosing trades like construction. Chief Shenandoah said.

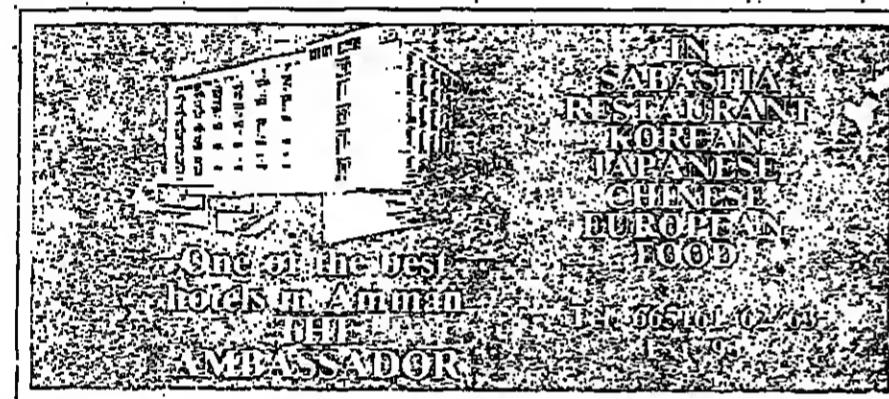
In 1974, all non-Indians were evicted from the reservation because too many had settled there, which was leading to a breakdown in traditional law. Chief Lyons said.

Both he and Chief Shenandoah insisted this was not a militant stance. The Haudenosaunee were only demanding their rights and "trying to stay alive."

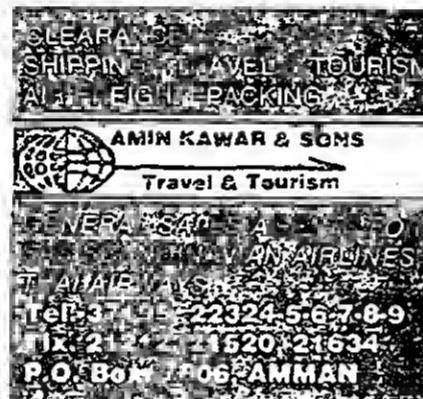
"We're a small nation compared to when we were in power so many years ago. But principles don't diminish," said Chief Lyons. "We know what freedom is. It's one of the greatest gifts we ever gave you people."

JORDAN MARKETPLACE

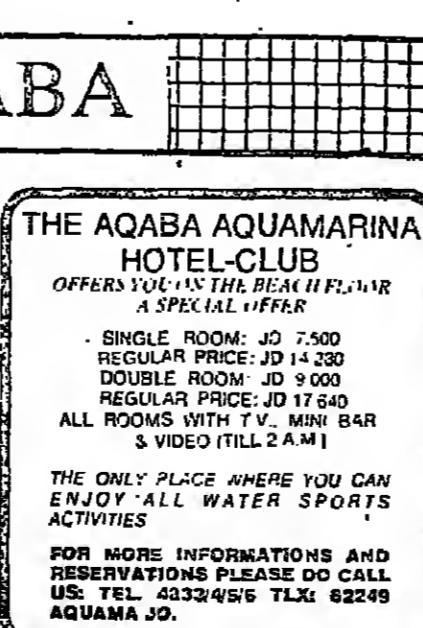
HOTELS



TRANSPORTATION

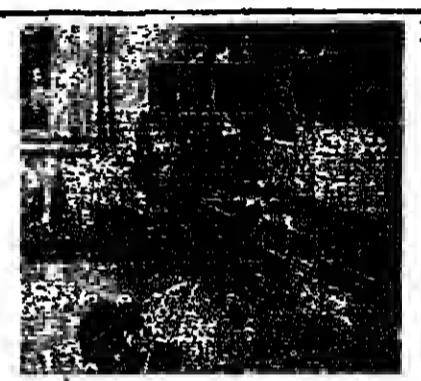


MISCELLANEOUS



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HOME NEWS

Domestic tourist push started by ministry

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities inaugurated regular trips to tourist sites in Jordan "which will no doubt enhance the citizens' sense of belonging to the country." The Aqaba trip was organised in conjunction with the Jordan Hotel and Resthouse Corporation and the Jordan Express Tourist Transport Company (JETT). A number of officials from the Ministry of Tourism and representatives of tourist travel agencies in Jordan joined the party.

The Ministry of Tourism's internal tourist Director Nashat Kawait said that the first such trip took place by bus to Aqaba Thursday at the cost of JD 13 per person. He said this fare covered the return journey, a one night stay at the Aqaba hotel with two meals included.



Paul C. Sheeline

Intercontinental chief arrives in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — Chief Executive Officer of the Intercontinental Hotels Corporation Paul Sheeline arrived in Amman Saturday evening for a visit to Jordan expected to last several days.

Mr. Sheeline will meet senior officials and representatives of the tourist and hotels sectors in Jordan.

Armico studies utilisation of minerals in Arab World

AMMAN (Petra) — Effective means for organising, coordinating and financing the exploration and development of mineral wealth in the Arab World were reviewed at a meeting held Saturday at the Arab Mining Company (Armico) headquarters in Amman.

Attending the meeting were members of a special committee set up by the Arab Organisation for Mineral Resources. A team of specialists was established at Saturday's meeting to undertake the task of drawing up a programme of action for the exploration of areas of potential mineral wealth in the Arab World. The committee also decided to establish a special fund to finance these operations.

The committee decided that its next meeting will be held in Rabat on a date to be arranged later. Representatives of Armico, the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries and the Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development attended the meeting.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Saturday addressed the opening session of the first Jordanian Pharmacists Congress (Petra photo)

Israeli interference leads to postponement of bar association elections

AMMAN (J.T.) — Elections for the Jordanian Bar Association's new board, which were to have been held in Amman Friday, have been postponed until March 18.

The reason given for the postponement was that most West Bank lawyers were not allowed to cross to the East Bank by the Israeli occupation authorities. "The lawyers of the occupied Arab territories want to take part in the elections, and we have put them off in order to give them the chance," said the Bar Association's President Suleiman Al Hadidi Friday.

Mr. Hadidi paid tribute to the heroic struggle of the Arab population under Israeli rule, and their steadfastness in the face of the Zionist's illegal actions. He went on to say that there are 230 registered West Bank lawyers and normally 150 of them attend for the annual elections. On Friday however, he said, only 18 West Bank lawyers attended the aborted meeting.

Meanwhile, it was announced that elections for the Jordan Medical Association will take place on March 25. A total of six doctors are contesting the presidency and 50 candidates are running for places on the 11-member board.

Jordan asked to Paris fair

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will take part in an international fair which will open in Paris on April 30. The Amman Chamber of Industry circulated an invitation to various Jordanian businesses and factories offering them the opportunity to participate in the 12-day fair.

It was asked that samples of these companies' products be sent to the Ministry of Industry and Trade so as to be dispatched to the Jordanian pavilion at the fair.

Jordan in '30s photographs donated to DLDNA

AMMAN (J.T.) — During a visit to the Department of Libraries, Documentation and National Archives (DLDNA), Mrs. Eric Weinmann, daughter of the late Count Andre de Lilmure, presented a number of photographs taken by her father during 1932 and 1933 in Jordan.

DLDNA Director-General Ahmad Sharaka said that the importance of these photographs are in the fact that they document the social and geographical conditions existing in Jordan 50 years ago. Mrs. Weinmann also promised to supply the DLDNA with more photographs from her father's collection of the Arab World which he toured at that time.

These pictures will be added to the archival collection of the DLDNA, and will be preserved and catalogued under the name of the late count for the benefit of researchers and scholars.

Taiwan art exhibition invites entries

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Education has received an invitation to participate in an international art exhibition by children from around the world, which will open in Taiwan in the second half of this year.

The exhibition will display paintings, photographs and other types of art work produced by children aged between six and 15, a ministry spokesman said. The exhibition, he added, is designed to deepen understanding and strengthen ties of friendship among children and youths around the world.

Mr. Khatib, severely deplored the attack and said it indicated an "organised plan for it was carried out by the military and extremist groups which are recognised and protected by the Israeli government."

He said that it is a "dangerous intimidation" against the Palestinian people in the occupied territories and the Arab and Islamic World.

Mr. Khatib warned that such actions will hamper American and international efforts to achieve peace in the area.

He called on the Arab and international governments to act promptly against "the Jewish chauvinism."

Mr. Khatib said his recent meeting in Paris with Iraqi Vice-Premier Tareq Aziz has been greatly welcomed by the majority of the people and army in Iran. The meeting was viewed as an expression of the Iranian people's will and desire for peace and stability, Mr. Khatib concluded.

Arab countries taking part in the seminar, which is organised in cooperation with the Union of Arab universities, are: Jordan, Iraq, Syria, Sudan, Saudi Arabia, North Yemen and Libya.

One of the two cars involved in the serious accident which occurred near the Shmeisani interchange Friday (Petra photo)

Continued from page 1

Non-aligned summit appeals for end to war

"The conference has been called a summit because of the top leadership gathered here," she said. "But in another sense we have only established the base camp and have a long climb to the attainment of our goals and ideals."

Conference sources said the issue of whether Baghdad should be the next summit venue was sorted out when Iraq agreed Friday night to a two-year postponement following opposition from Iran, Libya, Syria and North Korea.

The 54-page political document came down more heavily on the West than the Soviet Union.

Hassan urges new strategy

necessary to interact with economic and social developments of these countries, something which brought about integration in human resources."

With reference to the emigration of Jordanian specialists and skilled manpower, Prince Hassan said that Jordan is now planning to recall qualified people to benefit from their experiences. He also underlined the importance of pan-Arab coordination throughout the Arab World, "in view of the deteriorating value of Arab financial deposits abroad."

Prince Hassan also spoke about social and economic changes and developments in Jordan and the movement of people from rural

regions to the cities. He said that Jordan now requires new plans to cope with these developments.

Also addressing the symposium's opening session were the presidents of the University of Jordan and Yarmouk University. The delegates to the symposium will review 12 working papers dealing with labour markets, social and economic developments in Jordan in the 1970s and energy problems.

Around 100 economic specialists and researchers from Jordan and Oxford University are attending the symposium.

The opening session was attended by several cabinet ministers and officials.

Gemayel sends message to U.S.

Mr. Salam said he would be travelling to Washington with several Lebanese officials who are going to join Foreign Minister Salem.

The officials are Ghassan Tueni, non-participating "coordinator" of the Lebanese side in the withdrawal negotiations, Finance Minister Adel Hammieh, presidential adviser Wadih Hadad and two army officers.

Mr. Salam, who speaks fluent English, is an elder statesman of Lebanon's conservative Sunni Muslim camp, and played a major mediating role in talks last summer on the withdrawal of Pal-

Jordan denounces extremist attack

been published and said previously about the Israeli authorities' knowledge of the operation and the support by some Israeli circles clearly reveal the bated against Arabs and Muslims and the chauvinist and extremist mentality of the Israeli government.

The way Israel has been dealing with such incidents lead the Jordanian government to repeatedly denounce such actions and accuse Israel of encouraging these attacks, the statement said.

Israel has not yet issued a verdict against Allan Goodman, who stormed Al Aqsa Mosque last September. He has pleaded insanity at his trial. Furthermore, the Israeli authorities have not stopped harassment practices against religious shrines in the occupied territories, and instead a court rule in 1976 allowed Jews to enter Al Aqsa Mosque and say their prayers ignoring Muslim protests.

The statement accused the Israeli government of using "terrorist groups to implement its goals, which goes far beyond the annexation of the occupied Arab territories and the evacuation of their inhabitants, and to the uprooting of the cultural bases of the Arab and Muslim nations to whom the Palestinian people belong."

The Jordanian government also called on the countries of the world and concerned organisations to "bear their responsibilities toward the continuous Israeli violations against sacred Muslim shrines."

He added that it reflects the Zionist's total disregard of all human and international values. He stressed that these attacks uncover the "the essence of Zionism as a terrorist and expansionist movement."

Mr. Yahya also called on the international community to be aware of the implications of such "dangerous actions, which are aimed to undermine the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people in their own homeland."

Mr. Khatib, severely deplored the attack and said it indicated an "organised plan for it was carried out by the military and extremist groups which are recognised and protected by the Israeli government."

He said that it is a "dangerous intimidation" against the Palestinian people in the occupied territories and the Arab and Islamic World.

Mr. Khatib warned that such actions will hamper American and international efforts to achieve peace in the area.

He called on the Arab and international governments to act promptly against "the Jewish chauvinism."

Rajavi: War costs high

He said his recent meeting in Paris with Iraqi Vice-Premier Tareq Aziz has been greatly welcomed by the majority of the people and army in Iran. The meeting was viewed as an expression of the Iranian people's will and desire for peace and stability, Mr. Rajavi concluded.

Integrated health security scheme is government's aim, says Prince Hassan

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said Saturday that the government is striving to provide a high-level health service for all citizens through the implementation of a comprehensive health security scheme.

Prince Hassan was addressing the opening session of the first Jordanian Pharmacists Congress held at the Professional Association Complex in Amman.

"Jordan's main wealth is its citizens, and we must seek to provide them with a decent life and a reasonable health service," Prince Hassan said.

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In order for a health insurance scheme to be efficiently applied throughout the country we require close cooperation between all those bodies involved in the field of health, he said. We also badly need to have sufficient funds to implement this scheme, Prince Hassan pointed out.

He said that medicine con-

stitutes an integral part of the Jordanian comprehensive insurance system and therefore the pharmacists' profession must play a "major and fundamental role in this respect," Prince Hassan also stressed the need to make available the required medicine in sufficient quantities in order to meet demand. "Any competition among drug stores is bound to lead to an increase in the availability of good medicine at reasonable prices," Prince Hassan emphasised.

At the outset of the meeting Health Minister Zuhair Malles made a speech outlining the importance of the three-day conference and its close relationship to the everyday life of all citizens.

Another speaker was Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'uf Al Rawi who pointed out that the government was providing health services to nearly 70 per cent of the country's population mainly through the use of Health Ministry hospitals.

The opening session was also addressed by the President of the Jordanian Pharmacists Association Nizar Jardaneh who announced that the conference will review three working papers which will focus on the Spanish, French and British systems, and explain the role of pharmacists in each of these countries.

The conference will also study a paper on the health services in Jordan, and two others dealing with social health insurance and Jordan's future health care programme.

Nearly 30 pharmacists are attending the conference in addition to students of pharmacy at both Jordanian universities.

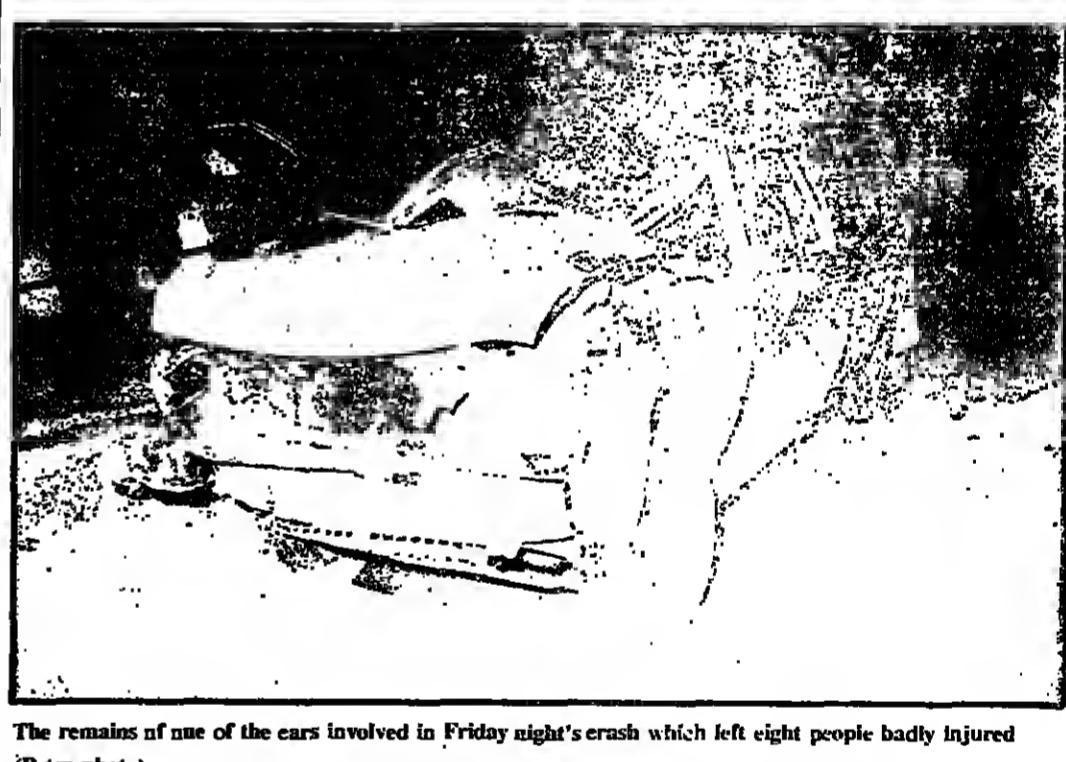
Elderly man fights off four thieves

AMMAN (J.T.) — A courageous and persistent struggle put up by a 67-year-old man and quick intervention by police thwarted an attempt by a four-member gang of thieves to steal over JD 10,000 Thursday.

According to a story in the Al Ra'i newspaper the attack on the old man, Mr. Yosef Jardan, took place in broad daylight in Mahatta

street. The man was carrying JD 10,000 in cash together with cheques to be deposited at a nearby branch of the Cairo-Amman bank when he was attacked from behind by one of the group identified only as A.T. The old man held on tightly to the money and a tussle ensued which prompted the accomplices to come to the aid of their partner.

According to the report, the old man was injured in the fight but the money remained safe with him throughout. The man was saved when a passing police patrol saw what was happening and came to the rescue. Only one robber was apprehended immediately while police continued search for the rest who, the paper said, were caught six hours later.



The remains of one of the cars involved in Friday night's crash which left eight people badly injured (Petra photo)

Eight badly injured as weekend marred by 2 serious car smashes

AMMAN (J.T.) — Five people were injured, three of them seriously, in a car accident which occurred in Amman Friday evening.

A report in the local press said that a car, which was exceeding the speed limit, was travelling towards Jabal Amman from the Interior Ministry Circle when its driver suddenly saw a hole in the road with a large rock inside. Trying to avoid it, he swerved off course losing control of the vehicle. It then overshot the road and was buried violently into the other side where it hit an oncoming vehicle.

The exhibition will display paintings, photographs and other types of art work produced by children aged between six and 15, a ministry spokesman said. The exhibition, he added, is designed to deepen understanding and strengthen ties of friendship among children and youths around the world.

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He said that it is a "dangerous intimidation" against the Palestinian people in the occupied territories and the Arab and Islamic World.

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According to the story the accident took place near the Shmeisani interchange not far from the Civil Defence Department. Two of the first car's occupants were trapped inside the car for one hour until civil defence men managed to pull them out and all were rushed to hospital, the report added. Both cars were almost totally destroyed.

The names of those injured in both cars were given as: Hikmat

Hakoz, Rula Habaybeh, Jamal Hakoz, Dr. Adnan 'Uweimrin and his wife Mrs. Susan 'Uweimrin.

Another road accident, which took place on the Na'ur-Amman road Thursday afternoon, resulted in the injury of the three young occupants of a vehicle again exceeding the limit. The driver, who turned out to be 18 years old, applied the brakes when trying to take a corner, causing the vehicle to overturn and tumble into a nearby valley. Police said all three were hospitalised.



One of the two cars involved in the serious accident which occurred near the Shmeisani interchange Friday (Petra photo)

Jordan Times
An independent news and political daily newspaper

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Israel at it again

ISRAEL seems determined to carry its enmity towards the Palestinian people to the bitter end. Nine months after its invasion of Lebanon which claimed thousands of Lebanese and Palestinian lives, Israel has no less hatred, but a lot more tragedies in store, for the people which it uprooted and dispossessed.

It has not been enough for the Zionist state to be responsible for the massacre of hundreds of innocent refugees in their camps in Beirut. On the contrary, Israel seems to enjoy the sight and sound of Christian militiamen and others killing and harassing defenceless old men, women and children in and near their homes in South Lebanon. And, now, the time has come, it seems, for Israel to form the so-called Palestinian National Guard in Lebanon as the equivalent of the Israeli supported and armed Village Leagues in the West Bank to further Israeli aims of subjugating the whole area and its peoples.

As the new Israeli move is only the latest in a series of projects to prevent the legitimate Lebanese government from exercising full authority over its territory, so is the continued silence of the international community going to lead to more Palestinian sufferings in Lebanon and in their own homes and land.

The plight of Palestinians in Lebanon and the West Bank and Gaza cries out for intervention from all those who believe in justice and right, but especially from those who have made possible for the Israelis to play with the destiny and lives of others with impunity.

American warnings to Israel that another massacre like the one at Sabra and Shatila last September could be imminent in South Lebanon, coupled with public statements by the United Nations agency responsible for the welfare of Palestinian refugees, UNRWA, and European and other calls for their protection, are not enough to make the Israelis listen. They should be followed by practical steps and serious action if the tragedies of 1948 and 1967 and 1982 are not to be visited again on the Palestinians, losing for ever the chance of making peace.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Begin tests Islamic world

The Israeli authorities announced that it foiled an attempted assault on the Aqsa Mosque organised and carried out by some Israeli soldiers and armed settlers. The attackers were said to want to set up an Israeli mini-settlement in the mosque's vicinity.

It is obvious that the Israeli announcement aimed at portraying the Zionist government as a dependable defender of holy places in the occupied Arab territories. But it is also evident that by the use of such proxies the Begin government means to test the Arab and Islamic reaction to such an attack. Because of this, it is quite logical to expect this type of move against the holy mosque, which can be halted by a positive and effective Arab and Islamic reaction to the Israeli intentions.

The announcement itself, so Zionist past practice tells us, could be a prior justification for a planned assault against the mosque now under preparation. The occurrence of such an "incident" would simply be portrayed by the Zionist propaganda machine as an event that the Israeli government were not able to foil in time. No one would then be able to blame the Israeli authorities as the action would be claimed to have been planned without their knowledge.

World public opinion, and the U.S. government in particular, are called upon to support the Arab and Islamic World in their struggle to foil aggressive Zionist plans against the holy Aqsa Mosque.

Al Dustour: Aqsa attack not the last

We are positive that the attempt to destroy the Aqsa Mosque and to assassinate those who were present will not be the last one. Israel has seen the world keep silent in the face of its annexation of the Holy City, and it is inherent that after Israel's proclamation of Jerusalem as its eternal capital, all non-Jewish sites and buildings would be a permanent target for Zionist assaults.

Friday's attempt on the mosque reminds us of the previous aimed at burning it in 1969. It also reminds us of the criminal armed assault against worshippers in the mosque last April by an Israeli terrorist, which resulted in the killing and injuring of seventeen people. Such incidents can not be seen in isolation from the Israeli government's tireless excavations under and in the vicinity of the mosque on the pretext of searching for the ruins of the Solomon's biblical Temple. All such practices lead to the same conclusion—the eradication of the Aqsa Mosque.

The continuation of the Israeli occupation of Jerusalem will certainly mean imminent danger threatening the very existence of the mosque. To be sure it is one of the Zionist main targets. But the present stagnant situation cannot last forever, thus what the Arabs and Muslims are incapable of achieving today, they will certainly find closer to their grasp in the future. The irresponsible Zionist practices will definitely play a leading role in the emergence of a new Arab generation and a new Arab strategy that will respond to such threats against their whole cultural legacy in a more effective way.

Sawt Al Shabab: Israel threatens Islam

The escalation of the settlement drive by the Israeli authorities has a political and religious basis that threatens the Arab people and Islamic holy places in the occupied Arab territories. The announcement Friday of the aborted attempt by a Kiryat Arba group of settlers to attack the Aqsa Mosque indicates that the Israeli extremists, the Begin government included, are persistent in their attempts to eradicate Muslim and Christian holy sites in their drive for the "purification" of the "promised land".

It is not possible to draw a boundary line between the Israeli settlement policies and the assaults against the holy places. Any outward form of Arab or Muslim identity has an infuriating impact on the Israeli extremists, for these directly challenge their claims of supremacy in the occupied territories. Under religious veils, killers and fanatics are armed to the teeth by the Begin government and given a free hand to act in a repulsive way against all non-Jewish peoples and places.

Unless the Arabs and Muslims unite forces and confront this continued Israeli aggression, nothing will stop the extremist Zionists from pursuing their outrageous ends.

COME TO THINK OF IT

Ibrahim Abu Nab

Meeting a deadline

Last week I seemed to have got tired of writing. So I didn't write. And I felt good. Perhaps I should not be writing, I thought, but doing something else like carpentry for instance in order to keep feeling good.

Writing is not for me. I said to myself, and I wasn't meant for it. One gets into such a mood sometimes, the rethinking mood.

Under its spell, I found out that people should do what they were meant to do not what they are required to do in order to be happy. They should try and discover their true nature and do the things that are compatible with this nature not matter what it is.

I looked at my hands to discover their nature. They are large and bulky, made more perhaps for lumberjacking or prize fighting than for the gentle pen. They embarrass me. Sometimes I don't know what to do with them when, for instance, I bear a silly argument or

see a double-faced fellow. They itch wanting to go forward with a double fisted thrust if I don't check them and keep them under control in my pockets. These are not the hands of a writer but a fighter.

This train of thought led me to thinking about the apple. An apple feels good, I think, when it is eaten because it was meant for eating. The eater feels good just the same because he was meant to eat apples not kill his brothers or steal their land. I wish that somebody had told Ariel Sharon and Menachem Begin that apples are good for them. An apple a day keeps the doctor away as you know. And an apple a day might have kept Sharon away from Sabra and Shatila. You must be feeling very bad in order to do such a thing.

I don't know why I kept thinking about apples. There is a lesson to be drawn from an apple I think. If it lives longer hanging on the tree, it will die

wrinkled and down trodden. So it must be eaten when it is ripe. I told an American woman that an apple is a perfect Muslim. She opened her eyes in great amazement and said: What do you mean?

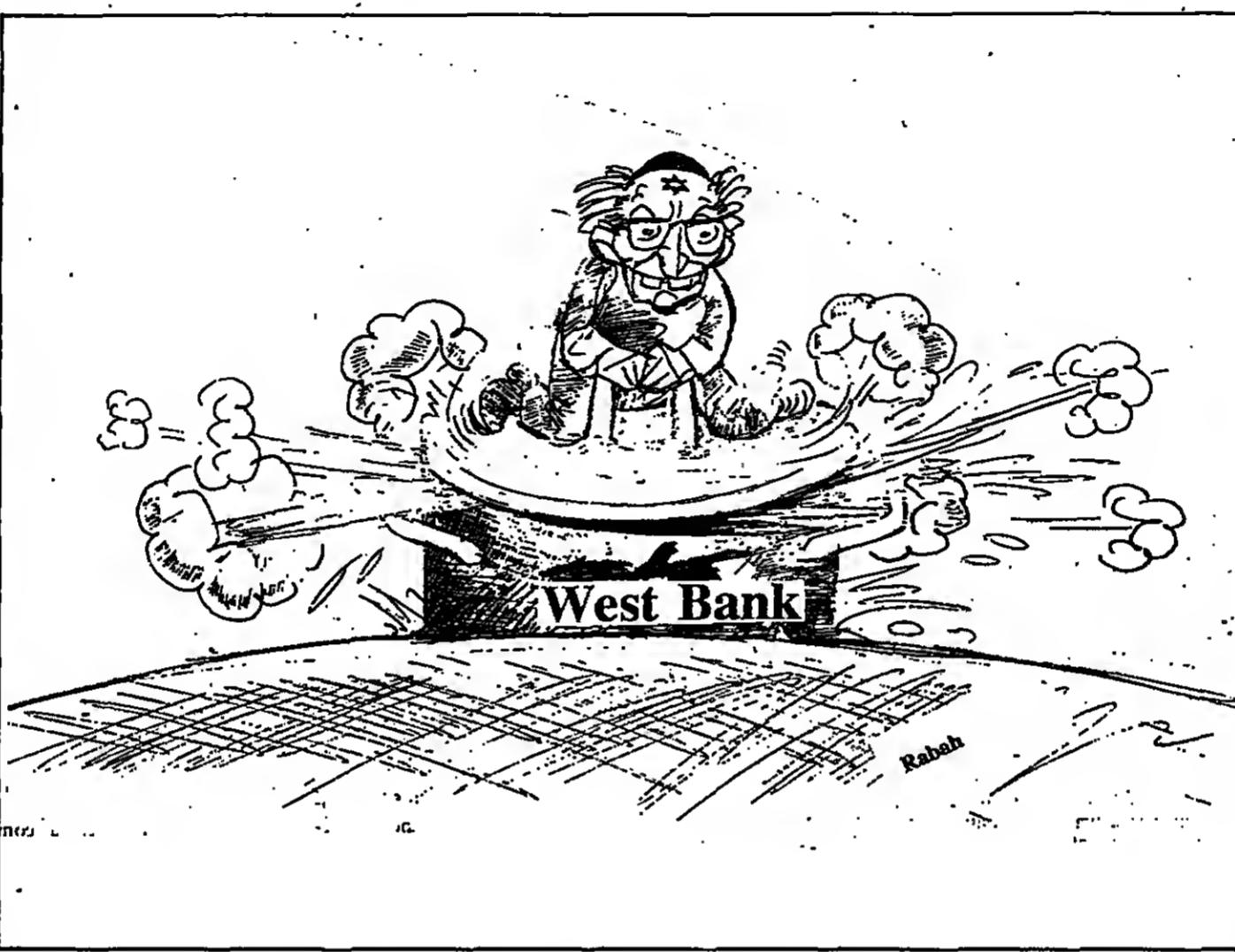
I said: Islam in Arabic means acceptance of the true nature of things. You have of course to accept God in order to accept the true nature of things because it was He who gave them their nature. Once you start rejecting Him, then you will start playing havoc with your own nature as well as with the nature of things.

The American woman asked me: Why does a Muslim then try to keep a woman under his thumb? Is it the nature of woman to be kept under the thumb? I said to her: A Muslim man must keep a woman under his wings, not under his thumb. The difference is great. And going back to the first man, I think that he did not

hunt his woman and take her to his cave against her free will but that she rather liked to be protected and cared for. She must have persuaded him to do the hunting while she cooked for him, cared for the children and kept a home.

Going back to the question of writing. Originally, I had chosen to write a weekly piece that makes people think or, to put it more modestly, that makes me think first. But I discovered that this noble intention was thwarted by deadlines. Having to meet a deadline makes you dead and on the line.

Sometimes you cannot think, let alone making others think. This is perhaps the main fault of the media. It doesn't give you time to meditate or think about the true nature of things. When the deadline comes, it makes you want to hit somebody and makes a writer wanting to be a lumberjack.



An opportunity for West Europe's Communists to demonstrate unity

By Charles Bremner
Reuter

PARIS — For West European Communists, the centenary of Karl Marx's death this month has provided an occasion that is becoming increasingly rare — an opportunity to demonstrate their unity. Loyalty to the main tenets of Marxism is now the only solid common ground for the parties which eight years ago appeared to be converging as a political force under the banner of "Eurocommunism."

With the Spanish and French parties battered by electoral defeat and a disenchanted Italian party searching for new alliances, relations among the Western Communists are coloured by mutual mistrust and doctrinal difference. For example, there is little love lost between France's pro-Soviet party leader Georges Marchais and Italian Communist leader Enrico Berlinguer, branded by the Kremlin as a heretic.

And while party posters in Paris streets this month proclaim "Marx lives," analysts of European Communist affairs are writing the epitaph of a movement that many say never really existed.

"Eurocommunism, which most people take to mean a privileged relationship between the Com-

munist parties of Western parties of Western Europe, is dead," said Ronald Tiersky, a U.S. specialist, at the Italian party's congress in Milan last week.

In Paris, the left-leaning newspaper *Le Monde* reported Mr. Berlinguer's call for closer links with European Socialist parties and added: "There, without a word, we have the liquidation of Euro-Communism."

In Lisbon, a spokesman for Portugal's stammering orthodoxy party said: "Eurocommunism doesn't exist. We are Communists. We are not some sort of Euro-American, Japanese idea..." For some, Eurocommunism was born at dawn on Aug. 21, 1968, when Soviet tanks crushed Czechoslovakia's experiment in more liberal Communism and dealt a blow to party morale in the West.

By the mid-1970s, with further disillusionment over Soviet policy towards dissenters, the Italian, Spanish and French parties dropped their commitment to "dictatorship of the proletariat" and other doctrines associated with Moscow.

A 1976 European Communist congress in Berlin, the last grand fraternal gathering sponsored by the Kremlin, endorsed the rights of parties to follow their own paths to Socialism. The big three Med-

iterranean parties accepted the prospect of a "Stalinist wolf in sheep's clothing" sharing power in a Christian Democratic Italian government or winning elections. The Russians said some of the movements' doctrines were heretical. Since then, party fortunes have slumped or stagnated. The French and Spanish parties have gone their own ways to electoral defeat. The Italians have failed in their bid to win power through an "historic compromise" with the centre-right.

A common reason is Communists' inability to define a convincing role for themselves, independent of both Moscow and the "bourgeois" parties of the West, and to reform themselves internally, analysts say. They have also suffered from their old links to Moscow. "Czechoslovakia, Afghanistan and Poland have all discredited the international image of Communism," former Spanish party chief Santiago Carrillo told Reuters.

The party lost all but four of its seats in parliament when the Socialist Party swept to power in last year's elections. Commentators in Spain blamed internal quarrels and the party's failure to present its soft-sell Eurocommunist formula as a convincing alternative to the Socialist programme.

Mr. Carrillo, forced to resign

after the defeat, was also accused by many Communists of sitting by the party by maintaining a Stalinist grip on its internal affairs. A secretive internal organisation is also one of the hallmarks of the French party. It is run with an iron hand by a central committee and expels persistent critics. It has had to draw hard on discipline as their leadership has swung the party through a succession of policy turns.

After flirting with Eurocommunism, Mr. Marchais brought the party back into the Soviet orbit in the late 1970s, scarring his alliance with Francois Mitterrand's Socialist Party and bickering over Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. When Mr. Marchais took a beating in the 1981 presidential election and the Socialist party lost half its parliamentary seats, the communists accepted a junior role in Mr. Mitterrand's government.

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Mr. Carrillo, forced to resign

The haven for southern Africa's political refugees

By Rodney Pinder
Reuter

GABORONE — The flight of Zimbabwean opposition leader Joshua Nkomo has highlighted Botswana's role as a haven for southern Africa's political refugees.

But for this huge and empty country, already struggling with drought and falling prices for its mineral exports, it is an unsought extra burden, which could weigh heavily on its external relations.

Mr. Nkomo, saying Prime Minister Robert Mugabe wanted him killed, fled to Botswana this week shortly before he was due to be charged with law and order offences. Zimbabwe has not yet formally asked for his return, but the pro-government *Herald* newspaper has accused Botswana of complicity in his escape.

"By admitting Joshua Nkomo and others illegally... Botswana is in fact declaring war on us," it said in an editorial. Mr. Nkomo, evidently feeling safe of a haven inside Botswana, is a friend of President Quett Masire and many Botswans share a common ancestry with his own Kalanga peoples — he is not a pure Ndebele — on the other side of the border.

But his presence is a severe embarrassment to the Botswana authorities, already playing host to an estimated 3,000 refugees who have fled political pressures in their homelands. The government, which says it is waiting to hear of his plans to move on, has told Zimbabwe that Mr. Nkomo, 65, has not asked for political asylum. He has not been seen in public here, but a spokesman said he would stay temporarily to consider the situation in his country and would not speak to the press. Even before Mr. Nkomo's arrival, the Botswana government had introduced tough measures to control the refugees, blaming some of them for a spate of crime and accusing others of anti-government activities in neighbouring states.

Besides the Zimbabweans, they include exiles from Angola, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia (South West Africa) and South Africa. The Minister of Public Service and Information, Daniel Kvelagobe, announced plans last month to settle all unemployed refugees at Dukwe camp, 600 km north of the capital. Addressing 1,264 foreigners there, including 833 Zimbabweans, Mr. Kvelagobe said they would have to carry identity cards and attend regular roll calls.

Botswana has so far resisted Zimbabwean government pressure to repatriate its citizens who it says face criminal charges at home. But the decision to concentrate them at Dukwe, close to the Zimbabwe border and a mere 230 km from Bulawayo, did nothing to ease tension with Harare.

"We know for certain that Dukwe camp is no longer a refugee camp as it was during the liberation war, but a dissident training camp," said Zimbabwe Herald.

"It is now the centre of subversion and sabotage and its stature is now enhanced by the presence of Joshua Nkomo, who is obviously there to direct dissent activities against this country," the newspaper said. Diplomatic sources said Botswana, with an annual gross national product of less than \$1 billion, was in a severe economic crisis and was hard-pressed for funds for development, let alone for the welfare of an increasing refugee population.

A vast, mainly arid state with fewer than one million people and armed forces of only 3,000, it was regarded as militarily indefensible, they said, and its major concern had not been to allow the refugees to upset relations with its neighbours. It was especially careful that the South Africans, numbering about 150 at Dukwe, should not give its powerful southern neighbour cause for an attack like that carried out in Lesotho last year against that Pretoria-termed "South African nationalist terrorists."

Fifty-two people, including 12 Lesotho nationals, were killed during the raid. Until the arrival of Mr. Nkomo, relations with Zimbabwe had outwardly been little affected by its liberal refugee policy.

After flirting with Eurocommunism, Mr. Marchais brought the party back into the Soviet orbit in the late 1970s, scarring his alliance with Francois Mitterrand's Socialist Party and bickering over Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. When Mr. Marchais took a beating in the 1981 presidential election and the Socialist party lost half its parliamentary seats, the communists accepted a junior role in Mr. Mitterrand's government.

Although it now has four senior ministers serving as ministers, the party is widely believed to have been outmanoeuvred by the Socialists. As effective hostages to their old rivals, the Communists had to accept some paradoxical positions, tacitly endorsing for example the government's strong backing for new NATO missiles and its con-

demnation of Soviet internal policies.

The paradox has been highlighted with the Italian Communists' backing for the Kremlin's argument that France's nuclear force should be included in calculations for U.S.-Soviet arms reductions — a view rejected by Mr. Marchais. The French party is now far apart from the Italians and Spanish in its attitude to the Soviet Union, still the main touchstone for Communist ideologists.

The two southern parties saw the 1981 crackdown in Poland as proof that the Soviet model was obsolete, drawing fury from Moscow. The French condemned martial law.

In its most striking demonstration of loyalty, Mr. Marchais' party complained to the French broadcasting authority in December over what it said was an anti-Soviet campaign by the media over Poland and allegations in Italy that the Soviet KGB security police were involved in a 1981 attempt on the Pope. But according to Mr. Carrillo, independence from Moscow remains the constant of Eurocommunism.

"Eurocommunism will eventually triumph, but it will not be easy. It will be a triumph of a coalition of forces that wants real change," he said.

Press freedom in Yugoslavia under scrutiny

By Richard Balmforth
Reuter

BELGRADE — Press freedom has come under scrutiny by Yugoslavia's ruling Communist Party and many believe there could be official moves to force the media to tread a more orthodox path. The latest sign of high-level fears that the Yugoslav media is enjoying more freedom than many officials would like came at a meeting of the Serbian Communist

Party leadership in Belgrade. During eight hours of debate, hard-line party officials charged the press with opening its columns to blatant anti-Communism and giving voice to divisive nationalism. Others defended the media and party President Mihajlo Ribicic later said the party is generally satisfied with the domestic press. Though prospects of a clampdown to muzzle the media appear to have receded, the Yugoslav Communist Party leadership

meets this month to discuss the role of the press. The policy-making central committee appears certain to issue guidelines and warn the press against deviation from the basic party line. But senior party officials say privately that trends to democratise the press and keep the public informed will continue.

There is no formal censorship in Yugoslavia. But all editors and senior editorial staff are party members, which would seem to

preclude unwanted ideas being publicly aired. Even so, the Yugoslav press is the freest and most varied in Communist-ruled Europe. Newspapers range in taste from the dour, party theoretical weekly, *Kommunist*, to the glossy fortnightly magazine *Start*, which features a full-frontal nude pin-up.

There is a level of comment on domestic issues in the Yugoslav press, including some cutting car-

toon caricatures of party and government figures that have more in common with Western-style journalism than that of Communist Europe. At the same time, there is a rigorous self-censorship which

Interest rate on Jordan dinar has been kept artificially high for too long

Observers are rightly surprised that the interest rate on Jordan dinar is still excessively high despite the trend towards lower interest rates on all major currencies.

Prime borrowers in Jordan such as Alia (the Royal Jordanian Airline), the Jordan Cement Factories Co. and Jordan Phosphate Mines Co., are currently charged as much as 11 per cent per annum under the existing syndicated loans

unconditionally guaranteed by the government, which were arranged during 1981 and 1982 under the pressure of much higher interest rate in the Eurodollar market.

The world trend towards lower interest rates is very obvious. The U.S. dollar which commanded more than 20 per cent per annum at one time is nowadays not earning more than 8.5 per cent. London inter-bank bid rates for six

months deposit were last week as follows:

Currency	Per cent
U.S. dollar	8.8
Swiss franc	3.4
Guilder	4.6
Deutsch mark	5.3
Yen	6.5

We shall of course ignore the high interest rates available on the French franc and Italian

By Fahd Fanek

lira (over 21 per cent p.a.) or sterling pound (11.2 per cent p.a.) because this is due to the gradual but persistent depreciation of these weak currencies, where as a result to inflation or devaluation one may lose in exchange more than may be made in interest.

With the exception of Italy, France and Britain, we can safely say that the international

interest rate on stable currencies ranges between 3.4 to 8.8 per cent, an average of 6 per cent. One would wonder, in the circumstances, why interest on Jordanian dinar continues to rise.

To my mind it is quite unreasonable for the Jordanian borrower to find out that he is able to obtain dollars at less than 10 per cent p.a. where as the Jordanian dinar would cost

him 11 per cent even under a no-risk syndicated loan guaranteed by the Ministry of Finance.

There is an obvious (although vague) relation between the interest rate on a given currency and the inflation rate in the country concerned. The real interest rate can be arrived at by subtracting the inflation rate from the nominal interest payable. Under this formula, the real interest rate in Jordan

used to be negative -- that is, interest being lower than the inflation rate most of the time.

Now that inflation has subsided worldwide, and the interest rate worldwide has followed suit, we find that the inflation rate in Jordan has declined to 7.4 per cent while the interest rate is still rising again in the trend.

It is common knowledge that the government of Jordan has

cut down on its capital and development expenditure, because not all the committed Arabaid is being received. This means that the private sector should be encouraged to step forward and fill the gap through more aggressive investments.

I am afraid that investors are being discouraged by the artificially high interest rate on Jordan dinar financing.

Jordan's once-conservative bankers move in new directions

By Rami G. Khouri

Jordan's bankers, once a conservative old guard, have entered the 1980s in the vanguard of innovative economic development and financing. Along the way, they've teamed up with the activist Central Bank of Jordan to provide a model of public-private cooperation that many other Third World countries could well emulate.

The ingredients for a dynamic banking and finance sector had always been there in Jordan: a free enterprise economy, little government intervention, growing financing needs of industry and agriculture, a steady inflow of money from abroad, and a pool of experienced, entrepreneurial bankers with many years of practice in Jordan and throughout the Middle East. It was not until the mid-1970s, however, that regional political circumstances allowed Jordan's potential as a growing financial centre to be realised. Since 1975, the banking sector has been expanding at what Western financiers would consider a phenomenal rate of around 25 per cent a year. And having planted its feet firmly at home, Jordan's dynamic young banking leadership is slowly venturing out into the bigger arena of Middle Eastern and international capital markets.

For international bankers and businessmen, this means Amman deserves a close look as a base from which to do business throughout the region. For Jordanian businessmen and industrialists, it means the country is nearing the heretofore elusive goal of being able to rely on itself and its own resources to finance the bulk of its small- and medium-sized industries and economic development projects, though big projects continue to rely on international loans or aid.

Jordan's economy, small by the standards of the oil-fuelled giants in the Gulf, has sustained a growth record during the past decade that has averaged a ten per cent annual increase in gross national product. This brisk growth has been generated in large part by a steady and rising inflow of funds from abroad -- in the form of budget support grants and development loans from the Arab World; long-term soft loans from a score of international lending agencies, such as the World Bank, USAID and the OPEC Special Fund; the private remittances of the app-

roximately 300,000 skilled Jordanians working in the oil-producing states of the Gulf and North Africa; private capital investments; and tourism receipts. All of this money, whether it is channelled through the private or public sectors, eventually works its way into the banking system, and explains why the money supply of Jordan (M2) has increased from JD 176 million in 1973 to JD 1,403 billion in 1983.

The absolute increase in the amount of cash moving through the Jordanian economy is not in itself a remarkable feat; some other countries throughout the world have achieved similar growth rates. What is noteworthy about the Jordanian experience during the past decade is the fast pace and sophistication of services within the private banking system, and the manner in which the stodgy bankers of the 1950s and 1960s have been transformed into a vigorous vanguard of innovators who have stepped out well ahead of the rest of the economy. Furthermore, they have teamed up with the Central Bank of Jordan in a cooperative spirit that has allowed the pace of economic growth to continue at high levels, while keeping inflationary pressures within the manageable range of about 10 per cent.

The most striking development in the banking sector recently has been its expansion into new financing fields, such as locally syndicated loans, bond issues, certificates of deposit, syndicated guarantees and underwriting of company share issues. This, in turn, has been spurred by the establishment of a series of new merchant/investment banking institutions since 1978 that has irrevocably changed the face of banking and finance in Jordan.

The existing commercial banks in Jordan, responding to the challenge, have expanded their operations to take in many new fields of investment banking. The result is that the combined resources of the commercial banks and the new investment firms have been mobilised to meet a larger share of Jordan's internal financing requirements. The most striking advances have been in the field of locally syndicated loans denominated in Jordanian dinars -- a currency that has maintained a relatively consistent, reliable exchange rate against major Western currencies, due to the prudent policy of the Central Bank in managing its reserves of foreign exchange and gold. The reserves totalled JD 428

million in October 1982 and, combined with commercial bank gold and foreign exchange reserves of another JD 240 million, to a large extent explain the confidence in the strength of the Jordanian dinar. Official reserves have dropped recently, however, to JD 373 million in early 1983, reflecting the government's need to rely less on foreign aid grants that have been delayed.

Since the first locally syndicated dinar loan was put together in December 1978, the Amman market has completed some 30 syndications worth a total of JD 92 million. While this amount does not compare with the billions of the Euro-dollar market or the oil states is the Gulf, it is highly significant for Jordan because it reflects the new-found ability of most Jordanian industrialists and entrepreneurs to meet their financing needs on the home market. Besides eliminating the foreign exchange risk that was inherent in dollar loans obtained from the Euromarkets, dinar syndications in Amman are also considerably cheaper for the borrower. A typical syndicated loan of up to JD 10-12 million in Amman will carry an effective interest rate of 11 per cent, compared to about 15 per cent in the international capital markets, or up to 18-20 per cent during the past three years.

The Central Bank of Jordan, under the careful but innovative leadership of its governor, Dr. Mohammad Sa'd Nabulsi, has encouraged the development of the local capital market. In 1982, it issued new regulations to further spur liquidity-conscious banks to participation in syndicated loans. The Central Bank agreed to rediscounth up to 50 per cent of any bank's share in a syndicated loan throughout the life of the loan, at the Central Bank's normal rediscounth rate of 6.5 per cent.

A recent syndication of JD 11 million put together for the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company Ltd. modified this "carrot," as Dr. Nabulsi has called it, by offering automatic Central Bank rediscounth of just 40 per cent of a bank's participation in the loan, but at a higher rediscounth rate of 7.5 per cent. This led the head of a prominent foreign bank in Jordan to comment: "The Central Bank has always been sensitive to the liquidity needs of the commercial banks, and offers good controls and facilities without being pedantic about it."

Bond issues for private companies or for semi-public ins-

titutions have developed more slowly, mainly because of the lack of an established secondary market where a bondholder could liquidate his investment quickly. Bonds worth JD 40 million have been issued since 1978. The three investment banking institutions that were established in 1979 and 1980 -- the Arab Jordan Investment Bank, the Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan) and the Jordan Securities Corporation -- have all been active in underwriting bond issues, the biggest of which has been a JD 10 million, 10-year issue at 8% per cent. Bonds have averaged about JD 5-6 million over the past 8 to 9 years, at an interest rate that has risen slightly from 8.5 per cent in 1979 to 9 per cent in 1982.

The most recent innovation in local capital financing has been the adoption of "package deals," whereby a borrower gets both a syndicated loan and a bond issue, with commercial banks and investment banks jointly sharing the underwriting responsibilities of the package. The tax-free status of bonds has made them particularly attractive to institutional investors, such as banks, insurance companies and pension funds; but it is hoped that individual investors will become more active purchasers of bonds in the future.

The Central Bank's freeze on the licensing of any new commercial banks means that the 16 existing banks are concentrating on expanding their branch networks and entering new fields of business. The last three commercial banks to be licensed opened their doors in 1977 and 1978 (Petra Bank, Jordan Gulf Bank and Jordan Kuwaiti Bank). All three reflect a new trend that is expected to characterise Jordanian financial affairs for many years to come -- significant start-ups by interests from the Arab Gulf states, whether Jordanian nationals abroad or citizens of such Gulf states as Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain or the United Arab Emirates, that operate on the profit-sharing principle. Profits come from productive investments and an income is also earned on normal banking services, such as transfers, foreign exchange, letters of credit, discounting bills and travellers checks.

The second new institution that has entered the marketplace is the building-and-loan-type society that accepts contractual savings from clients in association with life insurance policies and home purchasing plans. One company of this type, the Real Estate Finance Company, is already working successfully; and two more licenses have already been issued to investors with substantial experience in the housing business. The new firms can accept deposits of up to JD 25,000 per person, but only after they have operated for a year and have been favourably evaluated by the

Central Bank.

The proliferation of new financial instruments and institutions has come about very much in line with Central Bank expectations in the mid-1970s. The thinking then was that the increasing amount of idle cash needed new investment outlets whereby it could be channelled into productive use. One of the main ways in which this has been done has been through the four-year-old stock exchange, formally called the Amman Financial Market. AFM lists over 80 public shareholding companies and trades the shares of another 30 firms, not yet listed on the main exchange, in its over-the-counter market. In 1982, AFM was put on the Reuters system, which transmits the activities of stock markets worldwide.

Traditionally, shares in Jordanian companies have been bought by individuals and kept in the family for many years. Now, however, with the advent of the stock market and the parallel initiatives of companies such as the Jordan Securities Corporation, new institutional investors (pension funds, insurance companies and the like), have started entering the picture. Professional analyses of the real value of industrial banking and service firms in Jordan have helped buyers pick up undervalued shares and reap solid profits, thereby increasing the number of participants in the market's activities.

One of the reasons that company shares, with their traditional dividend payments in the 7 to 10 per cent range, have remained attractive is the ability of the government to use fiscal and monetary controls to keep inflation at manageable levels. This has been a complicated and sometimes erratic process; but after the Central Bank started using its powers in the mid-1970s to regulate commercial bank interest rate ceilings, credit ratios and reserve requirements, it has not hesitated to intervene to protect the interests of the public while keeping in mind the concerns of the banks themselves. The result has been a series of monetary regulations that include the following:

Minimum 6.5 per cent interest on time deposits (though the actual market rate is about 8 per cent). Minimum 6 per cent interest on savings accounts. Maximum 2 per cent interest on current accounts. Maximum 11 per cent effective

interest on loans to resident borrowers, and 12-14 per cent to non-resident borrowers (to prevent foreign contractors from taking undue advantage of lower interest rates in Jordan and thereby draining the foreign exchange market).

A credit/deposit ratio of 67.5 per cent for commercial banks, a capital/deposit ratio of 7-10 per cent (depending on the capitalisation of the bank), and a liquidity ratio of 30 per cent.

The fast growth of the banking system during the past decade has put heavy pressure on the limited pool of skilled workers in the financial sector -- many of whom are entitled to higher salaries in the Gulf states. To many banks, in house training has proved to be the best way to meet long-term manpower needs.

The next five years will see the continued diversification of the financial sector, with new institutions and financial instruments being introduced into the market, but at a slower rate than previously.

The cooperative attitude that has characterised relations between the Central Bank and private bankers should remain a hallmark of the Jordanian system, allowing the entire financial structure to make adjustments dictated by local, regional and global conditions. The most recent example occurred last August, when commercial bankers were complaining of a temporary liquidity squeeze caused by the recent spate of syndicated loans and the drain of dinars into foreign currency to finance the high rate of imports. The matter was discussed informally between the Central Bank governor and private bankers, and within a few weeks the Central Bank issued regulations allowing a foreign exchange "swap" system to go into effect.

Other new techniques are also anticipated such as the introduction of floating rate notes -- that is, bonds with a variable interest rate that fluctuates with the changing cost of funds. Some bankers expect that the interest rate of syndicated loans, now tied to the Central Bank's prime rate, may be tied in the future to the actual cost of funds to banks. Also, the use of bank-managed credit cards is expected to grow, having been pioneered in Jordan last year by Petra Bank's introduction into the market of its Visa card.

-- Jordan magazine

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL

16:30 ... Korean Cartoons
17:15 ... Children's Programme
17:25 ... Black Horse
17:55 ... Circus
18:15 ... That's Incredible
19:00 ... Local Programme
19:30 ... News in Arabic
Arabic Series
21:00 ... Arabic Series
22:00 ... Arabic Series
22:30 ... News in Arabic

23:10 ... News in Arabic

23:30 ... News in French

19:30 ... News in Hebrew

20:00 ... Focus

21:15 ... Best Sellers: Shogun

22:00 ... News in English

22:45 ... Music in Time

23:00 ... Fresh Programme

News in French

News in Arabic

News in Hebrew

News in English

News in Arabic

News in French

News in Arabic

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SPORTS

Aston Villa crashes out of English F.A. Cup

LONDON (R) — Aston Villa's fall from grace was complete Saturday when they crashed out of the English Football Association (F.A.) Cup against Arsenal at Highbury.

First-half goals from Tony Woodcock and Yugoslav World Cup captain Vladimir Petrovic were enough to put Arsenal into the semifinals where they were joined by Brighton, 1-0 winners over fellow League strugglers Norwich, and Manchester United, who beat Everton at Old Trafford.

The all-second division tie between Burnley and Sheffield Wednesday will have to be replayed after a thrilling 90 minutes ended 1-1.

Villa's hopes of salvaging anything from a disappointing season now rest with their visit to Italy on Wednesday when the European Cup holders have to overcome a 2-1 deficit against Juventus in the second leg of their quarter-final tie — on Saturday's form, further humiliation appears certain.

Even when they fell behind, Villa seldom threatened Pat Jennings in the Arsenal goal and England forwards Peter Withe and Tony Morley endured a miserable afternoon up front.

Arsenal, who are hoping to extend London's hold on the F.A. Cup to a fifth year, moved ahead in the 31st minute.

England midfielder Graham Rix found fellow-international Kenny Sansom with an exquisite chip over the Villa defence and when the fullback's cross arrived in the middle the unmarked Woodcock rifled a glorious left-footer high into the net.

Four minutes later Petrovic put Arsenal a step nearer Wembley

with a memorable goal. The Yugoslav, who has found it difficult to adjust to the frenetic pace of English football, celebrated his return to first team duty with an intricate run into the penalty area and a blistering shot which went in off the post.

Manchester United, who had to survive a first-half mauling by Everton, moved into the last four with a dramatic goal from Frank Stapleton in injury time. They are now poised for two Wembley appearances for they meet Liverpool in the final of the League Cup on March 26.

With the F.A. Cup grabbing all the attention, Liverpool stayed quietly on course for their sixth League title in eight years with an emphatic 3-0 home win over West Ham.

West Ham's Geoff Pike put Liverpool ahead when he turned the ball into his own net before the champions-elect ran out easy winners with further goals from Sammy Lee and Ian Rush.

Jimmy Case, the man who knocked out his former Liverpool colleagues in the last round, was the Brighton hero again when he scored the only goal of the game against Norwich in the 67th minute.

Case controlled a loose ball in a packed goalmouth, swerved past defender Paul Haylock and rapide the ball firmly past Chris Woods.

Norwich hotly disputed the goal, claiming that Case had used a hand to bring the ball under control, but the referee rejected their protests after consulting a linesman.

Former Northern Ireland international Tommy Cassidy also made a big impact for Burnley after Gary Bannister had given

Connors withdraws from Grand Prix

ROTTERDAM (R) — U.S. Open and Wimbledon tennis champion Jimmy Connors has withdrawn from a Grand Prix tournament opening here Monday for "personal reasons," the organisers said Friday night.

They said Connors, who suffered a surprise 6-2, 7-5 second-round defeat by South African Kevin Curren in the Belgian Indoor Tennis Championship on Thursday, flew to New York the following morning.

Evert-Lloyd beats Hanika, reaches Dallas semi-finals

DALLAS (R) — Chris Evert-Lloyd ran into a tough West German competitor Friday night for the second successive round before reaching the semi-finals of the \$150,000 Dallas women's tennis tournament with a 7-5, 6-3 victory over Sylva Hanika.

Evert-Lloyd, who was taken to three sets in the previous round by Eva Pfaff, was tested all the way in the first set and the outcome was still uncertain at 3-3 in the second set.

Holmes to make 14th defence of WBC title

NEW YORK (R) — World Boxing Council (WBC) heavyweight champion Larry Holmes will make the 14th defence of his crown against Lucien Rodriguez of France, in Scranton, Pennsylvania, on March 27, the promoters said here Saturday.

It was in Scranton on March 31, 1973, that Holmes launched his professional boxing career with a four-round points decision over Rodell Dupree. He has not been

beaten in 40 further fights.

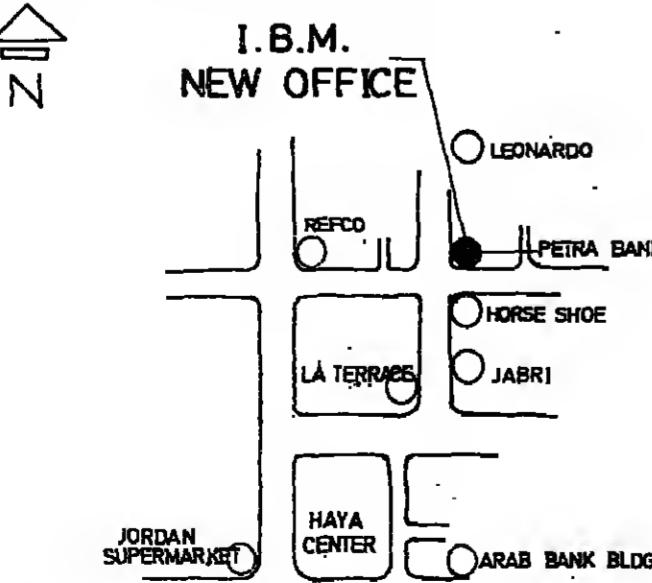
Rodriguez, the European heavyweight champion who has successfully defended his title five times, has won 35 of his 43 fights as a pro.

The bout, for which no financial arrangements were disclosed, will be a 12-round under the new WBC rules.

It will be televised live in the United States by NBC's Sports World.

IBM World Trade Corporation
Amman office

We have moved to our new premises in Shmeisani, Petra Bank building (Matalka Bldg.) 5th floor. Opposite Horseshoe Restaurant and across from Jordan Tower Hotel.



Our new telephone numbers are:
670171, 670172, 670173
Our telex No. is: 23267 IBM Jo

MEED team makes UAE cricket tour

LONDON — A Middle East Economic Digest (MEED) amateur cricket team visits the United Arab Emirates (UAE) from 17-20 March to play two matches against prominent local business and journalists. Co-sponsored by Gulf Air and the Hyatt Regency Duhal, the visit coincides with the opening reception on March 20 for the MEED Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) states regional office based in Dubai. It also marks the 26th anniversary of the magazine which was launched in March 1957. The first match at the Buktur Sharjah cricket stadium on March 17 is against a team which includes Abdul Rahman Falaknaz, President of the Dubai Cricket Association and M.U. Haq of CBFS (Cricketers Benefit Fund

Services) and Sharjah Cricket Association. The second game on March 19 at the Dubai Cricket Association ground is against a journalists' eleven including staff from leading Dubai newspapers.

The new MEED office is based by bureau chief Robin Allen and advertisement manager Emile Tabet. MEED's head office is in London and apart from weekly MEED the group also publishes Arab Banking Finance monthly Africa Economic Digest weekly and the MEED Financial Directory annual.

Other services offered by the MEED group include a fully developed consulting division and the world's largest photographic library on the Middle East, the Middle East Photographic Archive (MEPA).

Salazar, de Castella to compete in Rotterdam race

ROTTERDAM (R) — American Alberto Salazar and Australian Rob de Castella, the world's two fastest marathon runners, will compete in the Rotterdam City marathon race on April 9, the organisers said Friday night.

Salazar, who holds the world

best time of two hours 08.13 seconds and de Castella, who has clocked 2:08.18, will clash here against European champion Gerard Nijboer of the Netherlands and last year's Rotterdam winner, Rodolfo Gomez of Mexico.

"They can come here afterwards and will not have to make an extra long air journey again. We have promised them they can prepare for the Rotterdam marathon in some quiet place in the Netherlands," a spokesman said.

St. Mirren also found goals easy to come by at Airdrie, running up 5-0 victories. Billy Stark hit a hat-trick and Frank McAvie and Ian Scanlon took the tally to five.

Coe registers new record

WOLVERHAMPTON, England (R) — Sebastian Coe shattered his own world indoor 800 metres best by over a second at Cosford near here Saturday.

The 26-year-old Olympic champion, representing England in an indoor match against the United States, sliced 1.09 seconds off the time he set on the same track two years ago as he roared home in one minute 44.91 seconds.

Coe, dogged by illness and injury last year, said: "I did not really expect to do so well, but I always enjoy running indoors."

"I've had a very good winter, and lost only three days of training because of influenza. I would have been very satisfied to have just run one minute 46 seconds but I was surprised how much easier I found

it to do."

Triple world record holder Coe — he is the fastest man over 800, 1,000 metres and mile outdoors — hit the front with a lap and a half remaining and gritted his teeth as he sped 10 metres clear of his rivals.

Coe, tackling the distance for the first time since his disappointing European Championships performance in Athens last September, was trailed home by team-mate Peter Elliott, the silver medallist at last weekend's European Indoor Championships in Budapest. Elliott clocked 1:46.71.

The effort helped England to a 72-70 points match victory over the injury-weakened Americans.

Canada, Mexico, U.S. confirm candidacy for hosting World Cup

ZURICH (R) — Canada, Mexico and the United States have officially informed the International Football Federation (FIFA) that they are prepared to stage the 1986 World Cup soccer finals, FIFA said Saturday.

A Brazilian government statement on Thursday said President Joao Figueiredo decided to withhold support from the bid put forward by the Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) for economic reasons.

This effectively killed the CBF effort as FIFA insisted governments underwrite the applications of their national soccer authorities.

FIFA President Joao Havelange, himself a Brazilian, has unequivocally opposed his country's candidature on economic

grounds.

Brazil, Canada, Mexico and the United States had expressed an interest in staging the 1986 World Cup finals following Columbia's, the designated hosts, withdrawal for economic reasons.

FIFA sent out its terms of reference on Jan. 7 to the four candidates, and Canada, Mexico and the United States have now informed FIFA, that they can comply with the requirements.

A FIFA inspection team including the general secretary will visit each country from April 15 to 22 and will report to the executive committee meeting in Stockholm on May 20. The committee will make the final decision.

AMERICAN WOMEN OF AMMAN

Will hold their monthly meeting Monday, March 14 Marriott Hotel

4:00 - 6:00

INVITATION FOR COMPUTER APPLICATION SOFTWARE TENDER FOR THE DIRECTORATE OF PUBLIC SECURITY

The Directorate of Public Security invites experienced software houses to bid for the supply of computer application software according to the P.S. specification.

Companies interested in participating in this tender are invited to collect the tender documents from the tender committee secretary at the Directorate of Public Security.

Price per copy of tender document is JD 25 (non refundable).

Last day for submission of tender is 25/4/1983. Offers should be in triplicate.

A bank guarantee or certified cheque to the amount of 5% of tender value must be submitted with offer.

Rio's race could be hot work for some

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Keke Rosberg will be hoping that Sunday turns out a typical Brazilian summer scorch — but he won't have a day on Rio de Janeiro's spectacular beaches in mind.

Rosberg, 1982 Formula One world champion, will need all the help he can get from the tropical sun to beat a host of turbo-powered cars in Sunday's Brazilian Grand Prix.

The changes sent designers scurrying back to their drawing boards to find new ways of stealing a march on their rivals.

One team which believes it has benefited from the rule changes is Toleman. "It puts us on an equal footing with the other teams," team manager Roger SImon said.

Most other leading teams have followed Renault into the more powerful turbos. However, the turbo, does not like heat and Sunday's race could be hot work.

The thermometer in the shady Williams pit during Friday's first session of time trials may have registered only 35 degrees centigrade but out on the 5.030-km track the temperature was soaring well towards 50 degrees.

The Finn, who won only one Grand Prix during his championship triumph last year, surprised his rivals with the fastest time in unofficial practices last week.

"When the new regulations were announced we committed ourselves to a new design very quickly. We were the first car ready," said SImon. "I'm looking forward to the year. I'm sure we'll be able to score a certain amount of points."

Toleman, who have the experienced Italian Bruno Giacomelli

Piquet will not be doing Rosberg any favours on Sunday.

This year's championship, which is beginning two months later than usual, will certainly be slower and perhaps safer than in previous years because of new rules brought in last December by the sport's governing body, the International Motor Sport Federation (FISA).

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One team which believes it has benefited from the rule changes is Toleman. "It puts us on an equal

footing with the other teams," team manager Roger SImon said.

"They all had 10 years to try and test their parts. We've had only two seasons."

The British team looks very different from last year when it was mainly fighting to qualify for each race. One of their drivers, Derek Tozer, recorded the best time in unofficial practices last week.

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Toleman, who have the experienced Italian Bruno Giacomelli

driving the second car, have had npheavals during the the Rio year — quite apart from the car's good performances.

A technician burst a blood vessel in his leg playing golf and the chief mechanic flew home to Britain on Thursday as his wife was expecting a baby. SImon, himself, was stabbed in the chest by a mugger on the beach near his hotel, escaping with a minor flesh wound.

Sunday's race has a special significance for Nelson Piquet, Brazil's top driver and world champion in 1981. Piquet, who lives in England, has been criticised in Brazil for neglecting his homeland but delighted home fans last year when he won convincingly at the Jacarepagua circuit.

FISA later disqualified him and second-placed Rosberg after complaints from other teams that their cars were underweight. This year has been marked by unusual harmony in the Formula One world and the authorities seem determined to make it last.

FISA President Jean-Marie Balestre said in a note distributed to the press that the future of the world championship depended on how this Grand Prix went and called on all concerned to put back the glamour in the sport. But he warned that all regulations would be firmly enforced.

U.S. prepared to stage spectacular World Cup

NEW YORK (R) — Although the average American would not forgive a day at Disneyland to watch a soccer match, there is little doubt the U.S. could stage a spectacular World Cup in 1986.

The stadiums are there — though some would require alterations — as are the hotels, transport and communications.

And if the U.S. does come out on top of Mexico and Canada when the International Football Federation (FIFA) makes its final decision in Stockholm in May, soccer will have three years to fire the imagination of the masses.

Soccer has never become established like baseball, American football, basketball or ice hockey. Indeed, even Alkis Panagoulas, the coach of the newly-formed U.S. national side, team America, concedes "soccer is fighting for survival."

There are now more colleges and universities playing soccer than football but it continues to struggle at the professional level and attendances have dropped sharply in the North American Soccer League (NASL).

When the League begins its 17th season on April 17 it will comprise 12 teams, including team America which will be based in Washington and which will include the best U.S.-born players.

Team America will undoubtedly command a lot of interest and Panagoulas, who will be in charge of the national squad on a full-time basis, must be the envy of every manager in the world.

But the fact remains there were 24 teams in the NASL in the late 1970s and even New York Cosmos have suffered dwindling crowds. A few years ago att

endances in excess of 50,000 were commonplace at Cosmos home games. Last year 30,000 was considered exceptional.

However, the U.S. Soccer Federation (USSF) puts a strong case for hosting the finals. Werner Fricker, executive vice president of the USSF, said: "I don't think any other country can come close to us at this time."

Fricker, who is also chairman of the U.S. World Cup Organising Committee, went on: "We have lined up 12 outstanding stadiums as prospective sites that are well-suited for soccer."

"We can guarantee excellent hotel accommodation and transportation and security as good, if not better, than anywhere in the world. Our communications facilities are unparalleled. We have tremendous corporate support. And we can generate more revenue for FIFA than anyone else."

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ECONOMY

France, Libya plan to increase ties

PARIS (R) — France and Libya plan to increase their ties considerably, French officials said Friday after five days of bilateral talks here.

Joint commissions on economic and cultural cooperation, which were meant to convene annually, met this week for the first time since 1978.

The two delegations were led by France's Foreign Trade Minister Michel-Jobert and Libyan Planning Minister Fawzi Shakshouki. "Both sides were pleased with the very friendly and constructive atmosphere of the discussions, which reflected the will of the two countries to pursue further contacts and increase cooperation," the French trade ministry said in a statement.

It added that oil and gas, agriculture, heavy industry, health, transport, communications and increased cultural links had all been discussed.

The outlook for French firms in Libya was promising, it said.

France has warned the West of the dangers of isolating Libya.

W. Germany ups car sales to Switzerland

BERNE (R) — West Germany increased car sales to Switzerland by 7.8 per cent last year while Japan's share of the market declined, according to government figures published Friday.

Switzerland is considered a valuable testing ground for major automobile manufacturers since it has no car industry of its own and the market is free of import controls.

French, Italian and British makers also lost ground. Sales of American cars were halved, reflecting higher prices resulting from an appreciation of the dollar on foreign exchange markets.

The German share of the market rose from 39 per cent to 42.1 per cent, with Opel and BMW showing the biggest increases.

Japanese sales fell two per cent and their share of the market dropped to 26.7 per cent from 27.2 per cent in 1981.

The largest declines were recorded by the Datsun/Nissan and Mazda firms.

Overall sales of new cars, which had been steadily rising since 1975, were virtually unchanged from the previous year at 290,890.

Non-aligned states call on West to haul Third World out of desperate economic plight

NEW DELHI (R) — Non-aligned states called Saturday on industrial nations, struggling to overcome the worst recession for 50 years, to take sweeping action to haul the Third World out of its desperate economic plight.

The non-aligned summit called for more aid, preferential trade terms and relief from huge foreign debts crippling the world's poorest countries.

It also demanded a major overhaul of the international financial system and said it wanted a much bigger say in how it was run.

The 101 non-aligned leaders from Asia, Africa, Latin America and Europe, representing more than half of mankind, urged rich countries to negotiate on global economic issues next year.

They said the easy issues should be tackled first before moving on to tasks aimed at restructuring global economic institutions such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank.

The two themes permeated the summit's 20,000-word economic declaration.

The Third World is suffering more than industrial nations from the recession and it wants a better deal.

The summit catalogued the woes of developing nations — record debts, rock-bottom foreign exchange earnings from commodities, flagging aid, reduced access to Western markets and grinding poverty.

Under the present unjust world economic system the levers of power are firmly in the hands of a few developed countries and are often used to the detriment of the interests of developing countries," the declaration said.

It said the world economic crisis threatened to balloon into a depression worse than the 1930s slump.

The summit called for restructuring of developing nations' debts, now running at \$540 billion and compounded by interest charges which have soared to \$106 billion a year.

It pressed for a global conference on finance and money for development and said negotiations at the United Nations on economic issues — the stalled "North-South" dialogue between rich and poor nations — were "urgent and imperative."

Summit blames U.S.

The declaration blamed "a few industrialised countries, in par-

ticular one major industrial country" for the failure to launch global negotiations.

This was a clear reference to the United States, which, backed by some West European countries, argues that existing international institutions such as the IMF and World Bank are adequate forums in which to tackle development issues.

The declaration devoted large passages to demands for reform of the World Bank and IMF.

It called for a greater Third World say in the two Western-dominated organisations, set up under the 1944 Bretton Woods accord.

Non-aligned states called for a doubling of IMF lending resources, branding as inadequate a 47.5 per cent rise to go into effect by next year.

The conference declaration amounted to a Third World economic blueprint in the run-up to two major conferences — the annual summit of the top seven industrial powers in Williamsburg, Virginia, in May and the U.N. Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in Belgrade in June.

Stressing the interdependence of world economies, the dec-

laration accused some industrial countries of "pursuing shortsighted and inward-looking policies".

It proposed a number of immediate economic steps as well as stressing the need for long-term structural reforms.

These included a call on the IMF and World Bank to take swift action to stimulate developing countries' economies.

Non-aligned states pledged greater self-reliance but also called on the West to double aid to 0.7 per cent of gross national product.

Debt burden stressed

On Third World debt, the declaration called for "a comprehensive, equitable framework for restructuring of the debt burden of developing countries."

The summit proposed establishment of several institutions to boost economic cooperation between developing nations, including an information centre in Havana on transnational corporations, a technology centre in New Delhi and a council of commodity producers' associations.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: One of those days when a change in your attitude toward others can be beneficial. Study the philosophy you would like to follow.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) A good day to get together with close ties but do nothing to spoil your relationship with others. Take time for recreation.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Attend the services of your choice early in the day. Make constructive plans for the new week. Be logical.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Your intuitive perceptions are working accurately now, so follow them and you can solve many problems.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) A good day to talk over mutual affairs with family members. Don't neglect philosophical studies.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Show a sincere and loyal friend the depth of your appreciation. Take time to improve your health. Relax tonight.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Taking part in recreational activities now can help keep you in a better frame of mind. Make sure you spend your money wisely.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Concentrating on home affairs can make this a most productive day. Make plans to improve your surroundings. Relax tonight.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Attend the services that can help you think along more idealistic concepts. Later engage in favorite hobby with congenials.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Plan how to have more income in the future. Use good judgment where budgeting is concerned. Be more practical.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Concentrate on how to have more abundance in the future. Avoid persons who like to waste your valuable time.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Make concrete plans that could give you more security and happiness in the future. Show more devotion to loved one.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Be more active in social activities and get more out of life. Accept invitations instead of turning them down.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be one who will quickly comprehend anything of a modern nature, so be sure to give as fine an education as you can afford for best results. Give religious and ethical training early in life and success is assured.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

Soviet Union steps up oil sales to West

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union is stepping up its sales of oil in the West in order to maintain its record level of foreign currency earnings in a falling market, according to Western banking and diplomatic sources in Moscow.

They said recent Soviet price cuts and partial data indicating a sharp increase in the volume of oil sales in 1983 showed that the Soviet Union was increasing its market share at the expense of OPEC members.

The Soviet Union, which is the world's biggest producer of oil and has been a significant exporter for years, reduced the price of its ursals this month.

The price cut to \$28 a barrel from \$29.25 was the second this year, following an earlier drop from \$31.50 in February.

The sources said they saw no sign so far that the fall in price was causing Moscow economic difficulties or that Soviet imports would be cut back because of a shortage of hard currency.

Altogether, the Soviet Union is believed to export around one quarter of its total oil production, which has stabilised at 12 million b/d.

Domestic consumption of ener-

gy is growing but Soviet planners would obviously become more gloomy if the world price of oil, its biggest earner of hard currency, continued to fall.

Soviet oil exports for hard currency are estimated to have risen from around one million barrels per day (b/d) in 1981 to 1.1 million b/d in 1982.

According to partial Western data Soviet exports in the first two months of this year have been running even higher, at around 1.4 to 1.5 million b/d.

According to Western sources, Moscow has managed to step up its exports to the West by cutting deliveries to its partners in the communist economic bloc, Comecon, estimated at about 1.8-1.9 million barrels per day.

Western trade experts here say Soviet state exporting organisations, such as Sovzneftexport, which handles all oil sales, have to meet targets for hard currency revenue and when prices fall, the natural tendency is to step up the volume of sales.

Monitoring Soviet oil exports is difficult because since 1976 the Kremlin has published data only in rubles, not by volume.

But even the published statistics, which do not distinguish between trade in hard currency

and clearing transactions, show how the Soviet Union has profited from rising oil prices over the past decade.

In 1972, before prices began to jump, oil and oil products earned Moscow 1.62 billion rubles, or 13 per cent of all export revenues.

In 1981, the last year for which trade statistics have been published, oil sales accounted for 21.6 billion rubles, or 38 per cent of export earnings.

Western estimates suggest that the share of hard currency earnings is much higher, up to 60 per cent. Estimates are only approximate because even within Comecon, some oil is sold for dollars.

In the short term, Western business believe the Soviet Union's hard currency payments position may be easier in 1983 than last year, because of a reduced need for grain imports.

They say there is no immediate danger of the Soviet Union being hard-pressed for cash to pay for current imports, and that Moscow can always sell gold in the West if necessary.

"Whatever happens to the oil price, the Soviet Union is going to remain in a high strangle for creditworthiness. This is obvious when you compare it with countries like Mexico and Brazil," one Western banker commented.

But Western analysts believe that if the world market for oil remains weak, Moscow will face problems in carrying out its long-term strategy of increasing gas exports to the West.

Analysts believe that while Soviet oil production has levelled off, gas output can be expected to rise spectacularly between now and the end of the century.

Ideally, the Soviet Union would like gas to replace oil by the late 1980s as its major hard currency earner.

Comecon countries, all except Romania largely reliant on Soviet oil, pay a price calculated on an average of world prices for the five preceding years.

This price varies from one im-

porting country to the next, but most Comecon countries are believed to be paying the equivalent of around \$25 a barrel.

If the world market price falls below this level, Comecon importers may seek a Soviet price cut, arguing that Moscow should not be charging more to its allies than it does to Western customers.

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE Daily Crossword

By John H. Hale

ACROSS	28	Psycholo-	51	Lika pickle	23	Peril
1	Manfolk	gists	52	Greek	24	Papal
2	Cuff	Elba and	53	nickname	25	vestmant
3	Indistinct	others	55	Ambience	26	Suva's
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WORLD

French ministers face defeat in town hall polls

PARIS (R) — France's bitterly-fought town hall election campaign ended Saturday with four cabinet ministers on the knife edge of defeat and resignation from the government.

Political sources said the extent of the losses by the ruling Socialist and Communist parties in the second round of voting Sunday would decide the final shape of a cabinet reshuffle President François Mitterrand is considering.

The left, which lost 16 municipalities to the centre-right opposition in the first round last Sunday, fears the defection of between 30 and 50 more cities.

Government parties have waged an aggressive campaign between the two rounds to try to limit the size of the swing against the left after 21 months in power nationally.

Interior Minister Gaston Defferre has already promised to resign if he loses control of Marseilles where he has been Socialist mayor for 30 years.

Also in danger of defeat are Social Security Minister Pierre Bérégovoy who is seeking a municipal seat in Mr. Mitterrand's former stronghold of Nevers and Industry Minister Jean-Pierre Chevenement who is standing in the eastern town of Belfort.

Political sources said they would both be expected to follow Mr. Defferre's example if they lost.

With the frane under pressure from speculators and from the strength of the deutschmark, Finance Minister Jacques Delors, another possible casualty, said he did not feel that defeat would require his resignation.

10 ministers forced into run-offs

A total of 10 ministers have been forced into run-offs in the elections. Lionel Jospin, head of the Socialist Party, was among left-wing leaders beaten in last Sunday's first round.

Those fighting in the run-offs included Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy.

He is expected to be returned as mayor of Lille but his future as head of the government is in any case in question as Mr. Mitterrand considers his next moves to tackle France's economic difficulties.

Political sources noted that the ministers most threatened by the conservative tide were all particularly close to Mr. Mitterrand. Defeat for any would narrow the president's options in a reshuffle.

Mr. Bérégovoy was a favourite candidate to replace Mr. Mauroy as prime minister before the unexpectedly severe electoral reverse hit the government.

Jalloud: 'Sudan simply wants American cash'

NEW DELHI (R) — Libya's number two man, Abdel-Salam Jalloud, has accused Sudan of raising the spectre of a Libyan invasion to get more money from the United States.

He denied charges by Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri last month that Libya planned attacks inside Sudan or massed troops on the border.

"We are three million people," he said in an interview Friday. "How can we threaten Egypt which is 45 million or Sudan which is 20 million?"

"We don't have any intention of attacking anyone, but they are afraid of our ideology, of our revolutionary doctrine," Maj. Jalloud said.

"We are not interfering in Sudan," he added. "Even many European and American newspapers say that Numeiri has big economic problems."

"He is just saying this to blackmail, to get more money from America. He wants to make believe that he is in danger," he said after attending the non-aligned summit.

The United States sent four advance warning radar planes to Egypt and deployed the aircraft

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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Neither vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH
♦ K4
♦ Q3
♦ AJ7652
♦ J54

WEST
♦ QJ763 ♦ Void
♦ A87 ♦ 109542
♦ 943 ♦ KQ8
♦ K6 ♦ A10973

SOUTH
♦ A109852
♦ KJ6
♦ 10
♦ Q82

The bidding:
East South West North
Pass 1 ♦ Pass 2 ♦
Dble 2 ♦ Pass Pass
Pass

Opening lead: King of ♦.

The average declarer reacts to a bad trump break with blind panic. But there is often a counter if you keep your cool and look for it. Consider this hand from a recent rubber bridge game at New York's famed Cavendish Club.

In modern theory, North's response of two diamonds promised another bid. However, he decided that the hand was likely to break badly because of East's double, so he made a well-judged

Turkish police free Armenian brothel-keeper

ISTANBUL (R) — Istanbul police Saturday allowed home an Armenian brothel keeper detained on suspicion of giving financial aid to clandestine Armenian groups abroad, informed sources said.

She was seized Friday two days after Armenian guerrillas shot and fatally wounded the Turkish Ambassador to Yugoslavia, Galip Balkar, in Belgrade.

The sources said no charges had been brought against the brothel keeper, named as Matild Manukian, who they said owned brothels in several Turkish cities including Istanbul. But they said police questioned her and charges might be filed later.

The military authorities forbade the local media from reporting her detention and there was no mention of it in Turkish newspapers Saturday.

Mr. Balkar, ambushed in his car on Monday by two gunmen, died in hospital in Belgrade Friday night. During the incident his Turkish driver was hit in the chest. A Yugoslav student was killed when he tried to stop the gunmen and a retired Yugoslav army colonel was seriously wounded in crossfire.

Yugoslav police later captured both attackers.

The ambassador was the latest victim in a 10-year campaign by militant Armenians against Turks living abroad, mostly diplomats, in which at least 25 people have died.

Turkish newspapers, which Saturday praised Yugoslav authorities for their swift action in arresting the gunmen, Sunday condemned Mr. Balkar as a martyr.

The Justice Commandos of the Armenian Genocide, one of the two main Armenian guerrilla groups, claimed responsibility for the Belgrade attack.

The Justice Commandos and the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA) have carried out most of the attacks on Turkish targets, in revenge for what they say was the massacre of 1.5 million Armenians in eastern Turkey during the World War I.

"They do not know geography. The distances are very big. It is impossible for us to mount an invasion and we don't have the intention, even if it were possible."

"If you interviewed a U.S. general he would tell you it was impossible to mount an invasion over such a big distance," he said.

Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi has said he refuses to be intimidated by the United States and will promote revolution in rival Arab States.

Maj. Jalloud denied reports from Cairo that Col. Qaddafi sent an aide there this month to suggest improved ties.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak told the Cairo daily newspaper Al-Ahram he received a Libyan aide on March 3.

Maj. Jalloud said: "We have not sent anyone. It might be an ordinary citizen of Libya who got in contact with Mubarak. We boycott Egypt and will continue until it gets rid of Camp David."

French ship interrupts island party

PONT VILA, Vanuatu (R) — The South Pacific republic of Vanuatu has claimed a neighbouring island from France but a French warship escorted an official party away before it could land on a second disputed island, a member of the group said Saturday.

Bob Makin, a journalist with Radio Vanuatu, said the party earlier this week raised the flag of their South Pacific archipelago on Hunter Island, about 320 kilometres southeast of the southern tip of Vanuatu.

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"It was all quite cordial but they made it obvious they thought it was time we left and so we did. They escorted us for 12 nautical miles from Matthew and then went their own way," Makin said after returning to Port Vila.

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